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ILCC: Updated COVID-19 Mitigation Efforts to Take Effect in Region 7

Non-compliance may result in liquor license suspension

CHICAGO— Additional COVID-19 mitigation efforts go into effect October 23, 2020 in Region 7 in response to continued positivity rate averages greater than or equal to 8% for three consecutive days. The Illinois Liquor Control Commission is reminding licensed liquor establishments in Region 7 that failure to abide by the new mitigation efforts could result in immediate enforcement action against their license. Region 7 is a two-county region including Will and Kankakee counties.

<u>The new Region 7 mitigations (available via this link) being imposed are listed below and go into effect</u> on Friday, October 23, 2020 :

- Bars and restaurants must close at 11pm and may reopen no earlier than 6am the following day.
- Bars and restaurants can serve patrons at tables with outdoor seating only. No indoor service or seating is allowed.
- No ordering, seating, or congregating at bar is allowed and it is recommended that bar stools be removed. No indoor service or seating is allowed.
- No standing or congregating indoors or outdoors while waiting for a table or exiting the premises.
- No dancing or standing indoors.
- Reservations required for each party.
- No seating of multiple parties at one table.
- Meetings, social events and gatherings are limited to the lesser of 25 people or 25% of overall room capacity. (This restriction modifies the previous limitation of the lesser of 50 people or 50% of overall room capacity.)
- No party buses are allowed.
- Gaming and casinos must be closed by 11:00 p.m. and not reopen until 8:00 a.m. per the Illinois
 Gaming Board requirements. Food and beverage services in gaming establishments have been
 suspended. See link for additional Gaming Board requirements: https://www.igb.illinois.gov/.

Under the Illinois Liquor Control Act (235 ILCS 5/7-5), local liquor commissioners may temporarily cease the liquor license of a business found to be posing an immediate threat to the welfare of their

community. Suspensions may last up to seven days. <u>Click here for more information on a Local Liquor Control Commission's Summary Authority</u>.

The new mitigation efforts will remain in effect until Region 7 is able to reduce its seven-day rolling average positivity rate to or below 6.5% for 14 consecutive days. When the region is able to meet the 6.5% sustained positivity rate target, the region will be allowed to return to regular Phase 4 guidelines without these enhanced mitigations.

Information on the State of Illinois' central website for COVID-19 is <u>available at coronavirus.illinois.gov</u>. For additional information related to COVID-19 and the ILCC, please visit the ILCC's website at: https://www2.illinois.gov/ilcc.

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